

50¢
DOLLAR COMIC



FANTASTIC ART BY: STEVE OITKO • MICHAEL KALUTA
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SCIENCE FICTION



TIMEWARP™

DOOMSDAY TALES AND OTHER THINGS



VROOOOMMM



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corgi

**A GREEN WHEEL
SPINS THROUGH THE
SATIN SKY OF NIGHT
IN THE NOT-100-
DISTANT FUTURE—
SCIENTIFIC
SATELLITE ZETA
ORBIT 8-74 ...**



**...AND DOWN ON A CERTAIN BIG CHIEF CALLED EARTH ONE TECHNICIAN AT
SATELLITE CONTROL STATION 29 GLAZES UP WITH ADORATION AT THAT
SINGLE BRIGHT DOT MOVING ACROSS A SEA OF STARS ...**



WHAT IS BLAZES
IS HOOKING DOWN MONA ...
TRACKING SATELLITES WITH
THE NAKED EYE? WE'VE
GOT THE BEST INSTRUMENTS
IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM
FOR THAT!

OH, SHE'S GOT A
"FRIEND ON ZETA
ORBIT 8-74." EVERY
TIME IT PASSES OVER—
HEAD SHE GOES
INTO A TRANCE
MOODING OVER
HER PEN PAL!

PEN PAL

**BOB HANEY : STORY
FRED GARRILLO : ART
ESPERDY MAHLUM : LETTERS
GENE D'ANSELO : COLORS**

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IT HAD ALL BEGUN WHEN SUSAN WAS ASSIGNED TO MONITOR ZETA ORBIT 8 (FOR BOTANICAL SATELLITE)-74--

SAT CONTROL TO ZETA ORBIT. WE ARE FIRING THRUSTERS TO INCREASE YOUR PERIGEE. YOU WERE IN DANGER OF LOSING ORBITAL SPEED.

ROGER, SAT CONTROL I...

THE VOICE CAME THROUGH THE MILES OF VOID WAS DEEP, POETIC, AND SEEMED TO BE RIGHT AT SUSAN'S SIDE--

I MEAN IT. NOBODY MUCH TO TALK TO UP HERE...EXCEPT TWENTY ACRES OF BIO-PLANTS TO FEED THE HUNGRY MASSES DOWN THERE. BUT NOW, IT'S ALL DIFFERENT--NOW THE SPACE GODS HAVE SENT ME YOU.

...AND TO HAVE YOU AS MY LIFELINE TO DEAR OLD EARTH...IS LIKE BEING SPUN THROUGH SPACE AT THE END OF A MOONBEAM....

OH, PLEASE...

Nobody had ever talked to plain SUSAN HOSKINS THAT WAY BEFORE. IN THE DAYS AND WEEKS THAT FOLLOWED SHE AND HER NEW FRIEND GREW CLOSER... AND CLOSER...

JOH--I HAVE TO SIGN OFF NOW. ANOTHER TECHNICIAN WILL TAKE YOU THROUGH THE NEXT DOZEN ORBITS.

TE, NEXT I HEAR YOUR STARCHINE VOICE, HONEY.

SUSAN HATED TO GIVE UP HER CONTROL CONSOLE TO ANYONE ELSE FOR EVEN A MOMENT--TO SAY NOTHING OF GOING HOME TO EAT AND SLEEP... ALONE.

CAN'T WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW AND TUE WITH JOH. EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN IS... EMPTY.

SINCE THE WORLD BEGAN, A
MAN-WOMAN THING HAS ITS
OWN RULES--ITS OWN
INEVITABLE STEPS...

SWEETIE, I WOULD LOVE
TO JUST...SEE YOU. I
DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT
YOU LOOK LIKE--



AND GHOSTING THROUGH THE SOUNDLESS
VACUUM?

YOU KNOW, SUE,
LOVE WE CAN'T HAVE
TV TRANSMISSION...IT
FOLLS UP THE
HYBRONIC FLAT CYCLES.
I'VE GOT IT...WE'LL
EXCHANGE PHOTOS!

WONDERFUL,
JON.



AND SO VIA THE SHUTTLE FREIGHTER THAT REGULARLY POKED UP THE
GREEN HARVESTS OF ZETA ORBIT B-74...

CARGO
SECURED!
UNTIL
NEXT TIME,
ZETA!



YES, JON'S PHOTO WAS A BIT BEYOND
SUEAN'S FONDEST DREAMS-- BUT THAT
ONLY FED AND ENRICHED THEM!

SO THAT'S THE
CRITING POWER--?
HAWHAW. I MUST
ADMIT... NOT
BAD!

NOT
BAD? HE'S...
DIVINE!





MODERN METHODS FAILING, THE DOCTOR
FELL BACK ON OLD STYLE SHRINKING...

I THINK IT'S
ALL CLEAR
NOW, SUSAN. / THIS
REX FALL... THIS
LOVER IN SPACE -
WOW, / YOU'RE
SUFFERING FROM
THE INTENSE
FRUSTRATION OF
NEVER SEEING
HIM - NEVER
TOUCHING
HIM. /



AND THE CURE WAS JUST
AS 'CLASSIC'...

I KNOW ONLY ONE
SOLUTION. / YOU MUST GO
TO HIM... SEE HIM... HOLD
HIM. /



ALL THE WAY
HOME THE SOFT
HUM OF DYNA-
CAR SEEMED
TO SAY OVER
AND OVER...

GO TO JON.
GO TO
JON.

YES, I MUST... I WILL. /
I'VE GOT SOME VACATION
TIME COMING. /



SUSAN MADE A 'DATE' WITH
HER FRIEND, THE SHUTTLE
FREIGHTER PILOT... /

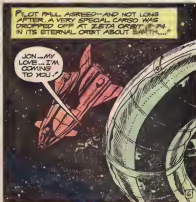
FLIGHT RULES
SUSIE... THEY SAY
WE CAN'T TAKE
UNAUTHORIZED
PASSENGERS
TO A BOTANICAL
SATELLITE. /

PLEASE,
FALL, I'VE
NEVER BEEN
ANYWHERE
ON VACATION...
EXCEPT A
TOURIST
JAUNT TO
THE MOON
ONCE. / IT
WAS AWFUL. /



PILOT FALL AGREED--AND NOT LONG
AFTER, A VERY SPECIAL CARGO WAS
DROPPED OFF AT ZETA ORBIT (E-24)
IN ITS ETHERAL ORBIT ABOUT EARTH...

JON... MY
LOVE... I'M
GOING
TO YOU. /



ALL WOMEN LOVE SURPRISES--AND SUSAN HOBBS SEAT CON TECHNICIAN JON WAS GOING TO GIVE HER BELOVED JON... THE BIGGEST SHOCK OF HIS YOUNG LIFE...



DARLING... I LOVE YOU SO MUCH! HOLD ME... BEHAVIOR ME WITH YOUR LIFE!

WHAT? JON'S VOICE?

IF SHE LIVED TO THE 22ND CENTURY SUSAN WOULD ALWAYS REMEMBER THE INCREDIBLE SCENE THAT ASSAULTED HER INNOCENT EYES...



KISS ME, PRECIOUS!

THAT GIRL... MY EXACT DOUBLE... AND THAT THING... THAT HORRIBLE CREATURE HAS JON'S VOICE...

AMEEEEEEEEEE!

IT WAS SUSAN'S SCREAM--THE SCREAM THAT SAID SHE RECOGNIZED THE CREATURE FROM HER NIGHTMARES-- THAT INTERRUPTED THE TENDER SCENE--



SUSAN? YOU... YOU SHOULD NEVER COME HERE!

I... I DON'T BELIEVE... I'M REALLY HERE... THIS IS THE NIGHTMARE! CONTINUING!

SUSAN WOULD HAVE PAINTED DEAD AWAY EXCEPT THERE WAS A WEIRD FASCINATION IN THE SUTHERN MONSTROSITY WITH JON'S VOICE...



NO, MY LOVE... YOU DO NOT DREAM! I AM JON... WE SUPREME ARE THE ONLY INTELLIGENT ORGANISMS THAT CAN STAND THE SPECIAL CONDITIONS ON BOTANICAL SATELLITES!



OF COURSE... OUR REAL APPEARANCE IS KEPT SECRET... YOU HUMANS WOULDN'T LIKE THE IDEA OF... AH... CREATURES GROWING YOUR SALADE...!



BUT THAT... THAT DOUBLE OF ME? WHO... HOW?

A CLONE I MADE FROM THAT LOCK OF YOUR HAIR... HAIR BEING SIMPLY MOORED SKIN! THE SATELLITE IS EQUIPPED WITH RAPID GROWTH CHEMICAL CLONING TANKS... FOR THE PLANT LIFE!



SHE REALLY IS A POOR SUBSTITUTE... HAS ONLY THE MIND OF A SILLY CHILD... BUT SINCE I COULD NEVER HAVE THE REAL YOU... OR EVEN SEE YOU...

MY GOD... THAT EXPLAINS THE NIGHTMARES... WHEN YOU MAKE LOVE TO HER... DON'T I CAN'T BEAR TO THINK ABOUT IT...



PLEASE, MY DARLING... TRY TO UNDERSTAND... I WAS SO LONELY... AND I COULDN'T HELP FALLING IN LOVE WITH YOU....

STAY AWAY... I'LL PUT A STOP TO THIS AWFUL HORROR... RIGHT NOW...

THE SINGLE-SHOT RAY PISTOL WAS NEAR AT HAND... AND SUSAN CLUTCHED IT LIKE A DROWNING PERSON CLUTCHES A LIFE PRESERVER...



YOU'LL NEVER GIVE ME NIGHTMARES AGAIN... YOU MONSTER!

NO!!

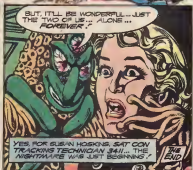


NOW SUSAN'S CLONE LAY BETWEEN THEM--LIKE A REJECTED DOLL...

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT, SWEETHEART... BY EARTH LAWS... EVEN KILLING A CLONE IS A CAPITAL CRIME... UNLESS YOU WANT TO SPEND YEARS ON A PENAL ASTEROID...



... YOU'LL HAVE TO STAY HERE... WITH ME ...



BUT, IT'LL BE WONDERFUL... JUST THE TWO OF US... ALONE... FOREVER!

YES, FOR SUSAN HOSKINS, SAT CON TRACKING TECHNICIAN JAN... THE NIGHTMARE WAS JUST BEGINNING!

THE END

Wonder Woman in "THE Woman BORROWER"



GUMFIGHTING DO'S AND DON'TS.



The first thing to do—pick the right chew: Hubba Bubba® The soft and juicy bubble gum with amazing, so-sticky bubbles™ Then proceed with this simple yet effective gumfight drill: (1) Begin blowing bubble. Now Hubba Bubba's incredibly large bubble. (2) When the Hubba Bubba bubble breaks do not be alarmed. (3) Simply remove and replace in mouth. Return to step 1. Repeat drill ten times.

THE PROPER STANCE.



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Geographical and linguistic use only.



YOUR SIZE IS NOT IMPORTANT.

The size of your bubble is. And that means choosing the right bubble gum: Hubba Bubba. Because when it comes to great, big, fat bubbles, nothing stacks up to a Hubba Bubba bubble.

Note proper stance.

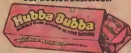
ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTES.

This boy did. And now instead of wearing a smile, he's wearing a paper bag over the bubble gum stuck to his face. Definitely not soft and juicy Hubba Bubba Bubble Gum. Does Hubba Bubba really work? Absolutely! Hubba Bubba is gumfighter tested and approved.



So pick up a pack of Hubba Bubba in original or mint flavor. Enjoy that soft, juicy, delicious taste. Plus those great, big Hubba Bubba bubbles that won't stick to your face.

SOFT. JUICY. DELICIOUS.



BIG BUBBLES. NO TROUBLES.

I, THE CREATURE

COLOR: DUTCHMAN HOOD

IT BETTER NOT
BE MYTHICAL, ALVAR...
I BLEW 1,000 CREDITS
ON THIS TRIP... MY LIFE'S
SAVINGS!

DON'T BE TOO SURE OF
THAT, BRAYTH. ZINWA WAS
PRACTICALLY ENGAGED TO
ME BEFORE YOU CAME
ALONG... REMEMBER?

IF NOTHING
ELSE, I'LL
FINALLY HAVE
ENOUGH MONEY
TO MARRY ZILWA.

SHIT'S NOT
YOUR
WIFE
YET!

SO ALREADY, HATE IS FESTERING,
AS THE TEAM MAKES ITS WAY
UP THE ICE RIDGES...



YOU
KNOW WHAT
THIS REMINDS
ME OF, ALWAY?
...THE YETI
OF THE EARTH
HIMALAYAS!

YEAH... AND YOU
KNOW HOW MANY
CLIMBERS DIED SEARCHING
FOR HIM!



HA-HA... IF YOU'RE
SO SKEPTICAL, WHY'D
YOU COME WITH ME?

YOU KNOW AS
WELL AS I DO...
BECAUSE YOU'VE
FINANCING THIS FLASCO!

WHAT HAVE I GOT
TO LOSE?



HOLD IT,
ALWAY! /
LOOK!



THOSE PAWPRINTS...
THEY'RE LIKE NO SPECIES
EVER SEEN ON THIS
ASTEROID!

BRATN!
DO YOU THINK
IT MIGHT BE...



MIGHT BE? /
I'M SURE OF IT!

THE HMMHAKA
IS REAL...
AND WE'VE
PICKED UP ITS...



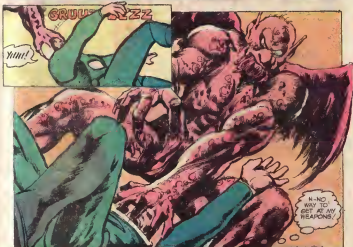
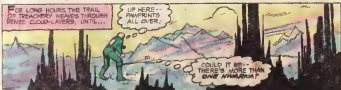
BWIR! PRRRRRRRRRR

UNNN--!



BY THE TIME
HE WAKES UP
I'LL HAVE
THE HMMHAKA!

I'LL BE
CREDITED
WITH THE FIND
-I'LL HAVE
THE PRIZE,
THE
MONEY-- AND
MAYBE ZHMA,
TOO!







ONE SCRATCH OF THEIR CLAWS... THAT IS ALL IT TAKES TO TRANSMIT THE DISEASE!

SOON, YOU WILL BE EXACTLY LIKE THEM... HELPLESS, MINDLESS!

YOU MAY HAVE THEM IN YOUR POWER-- BUT NOT ME!

WHAT? YOU ARE MAKING A TERRIBLE MISTAKE!

NO... YOU'RE MAKING A MISTAKE, IF YOU THINK YOU CAN KEEP ME HERE!

BACK ON EARTH, OUR SCIENTISTS WILL FIND A WAY TO HELP ME!



AND--!

THERE MUST BE SOME ANSWER-- SOME CURE!



MUST GET BACK TO THE SPACE-BUDDY... HEAD MOVE BEFORE THE CHANGE PROGRESSES TOO FAR!

BUT WITH EACH LUMBERING STEP, BREATHING GROWS MORE LABORED, MOVEMENT MORE WEAKENS-- UNTIL...



GOT TO REST-- AWHALE...



HUNT--P





ASSOCIATE EDITOR'S NOTE: Well, it happened! *TIME WARP* #1 hit the stands and you fans went absolutely wild! We couldn't be happier with the mail response so far. *TW* #1 has received more mail than any other first issue in recent history. At this writing (less than two weeks since *TW* #1 went on sale) we have received 90 letters from across the country. Now, we didn't please everyone, but the vast majority of your letters tell us that we have a hit. We thank you over and over and hope not to continue with what we are presenting here, but to IMPROVE upon it to a degree wherein each and every reader can find SOMETHING which will spark his particular interest in science fiction.

The actual breakdown went like this: 80 letters told us that *TW* #1 was "...the best thing to happen to DC Comics in years!", "...the greatest science fiction comic I have ever read!", etc. 3 letters said that we tried, but some of the stories did not reach up to par. And 7 readers hated what we did and wrote letters that we could not print in a Comics Code approved book.

Also, most of you read our editorial that issue and lined, in order, your favorite stories. It was quite a task to compile the results. One letter would hate one tale and the very next letter would claim that same story as their favorite. That made us happy because the nature of *TIME WARP* is to have SOMETHING for everyone. We don't expect that everyone will love every story (although many of you claimed that you did—good for you!). Here's how you voted.

The runaway success in the first issue was "The Righteous One" by George Kestren and Dick Giordano. And it looks as if many of the DC Editors agreed with you. The tale was in the running for "The Best of DC" this year. The second favorite was our cover story "The Survivors" written by Mike W. Barr and drawn in his own unique way by Tom Sutton. We'll be judging both of these gentlemen in future issues. In fact, Tom is working on a new Mike W. Barr script at this very moment. Number 3 in your poll was our lead feature by Gerry O'Neil, Rich Buckler and Bob Smith, "If the World Must End Twice." Many readers saw deeper meanings in this story and lauded it for its grim, yet hopeful message. Strangely enough, though many of you claimed to be art experts, no one noticed that, though Dick Giordano was credited with the inking, it was really the masterful work of Bob Smith.

Jack C. Harris and Steve Ditko's "Forecast" came in fourth with you readers, the overall opinion being that it was quite a surprising story for just 3 pages. We'll be doing more short-short tales in the future. We think Steve's work is clearly suited to these sort of stories, so he will usually draw them. Good examples were "On the Day of His Return" last issue and this month's "A Snatch in Time."

Your fifth favorite tale was Paul Levitz and Jim Aparo's "The Man Who Could See Yesterday." Many readers familiar with Jim's work on *BRAVE AND THE BOLD* were happily surprised at this straight science fiction story from his drawing board. And everyone who knew Paul's writing abilities said that they expected no less than excellence from him—and, according to you, he delivered.

Number 6 was "The Monsters" by Michael Fleisher and Jerry Grandenetti. Jerry's unusual art style was a shock to

some of you, but many realized how well his bold lines hold color and make a story start and shocking.

Bob Rozema, Don Newton and Dan Adkins supplied our seventh tale in "Rescue." With this story and "The Mating Game," by Fleisher and O'Neil, which came in eighth, readers said that it wasn't that the stories were bad, it was just very different to fan favorites. One reader said that they ALL came in number ONE, but some were MORE number one than others.

But let's get to specifics! Here's what YOU had to say:

Dear Editor,

After reading *Time Warp* #1, I felt that now would be good a time as any to write my first letter to DC. But I won't waste time and space by babbling. I'll get on to what I mean to say.

Compliment yourself on *Time Warp* #1. All in all, it was a very enjoyable comic. Since I'm a science fiction fan, I found it that much more pleasing. The art turned out by Newton/Adkins and Tom Sutton was excellent. I hope they stay on the comic. Jim Aparo's and Dick Giordano's art was good also. On the other hand, I think Jerry Grandenetti severely hampered an otherwise great story by Michael Fleisher. All the stories (just the content) were enjoyable, some just more so than others, but "The Monsters", "Forecast", and "The Mating Game" were the top three respectively.

At any rate, here's what you asked for, all the stories in order of preference (Based on the art and content): "The Survivors", "Forecast", "Rescue", "If the World Had to End Twice", "The Mating Game", "The Monsters", "The Righteous One", "The Man Who Could See Yesterday".

You might try to incorporate more terror and suspense into the stories because I feel that they are two key elements for a good sci-fi story. Also, Mike Kaluta's cover was fabulous. Please keep him on *Warp*, congratulations on your first issue. Keep up the good work!

Alex Quong
26144 Barbours Dr.
Palo Verde, CA 90274

Upon completing the cover to *TIME WARP* #1, Michael Kaluta requested to be *THE TIME WARP* cover artist. The assignment is his as long as he wants it—JCN

Dear Editor,

Cheerious Kudos on *TIME WARP* #1. What an excellent array of stories—the proverbial something for everyone. Read your editorial, so in order of preference—here are my comments:

Kaluta's cover—a grabber. This alone would've made me buy it. Mail!

"Rescue"—Bob's story was a classic heister without being contrived. Durkin's kyle battle has a ring of truth, as we individuals pit ourselves against systems, establishments and mercenary monopolies even today. Laura was too ill. Don & Dan did great—hope to see more of them in future *TW*s.

"If the World Had to End Twice..."—this portrait of a man who deemed himself god was a superb character study. Jake Saturn frame too corrupt and his mate were truly loathed "persons" but the youngsters were fragments Rich and Dick carried the artwork off very well. The only other objection, Dennis, is I wish you'd made clear Saturn was painting self portraits earlier for more irony and less "Oh, was that what he was painting?"

"The Righteous One"—predictable, but well done, the characters were well-defined. The pacing was choppy but had firm resolve. Dick was marvelous and George handled the dialogue real well. This story ties with "If the World..." for 2nd place.

"The Man Who Could See Yesterday"—well drawn—love Aparo's work, well thought out plot. How did Brendan think

he'd "exploit" D'Tye with the U.S. patrolling? His actions weren't thought out. One more thing—why didn't the D'Tyans simply write down their predictions?

"The Survivors"—the best Surton I've seen. The story was good but left too many questions unanswered—implied yes, but answered no.

Both "Mating Game" and "Forecast" were like something out of the countless mystery-horror mags of the 50's. Good Ditko artwork, fast stories with no characterizations. Strictly sales for the plot twist only—fun stuff. "Monsters" was almost from the same genre, but a little less viable. It was almost predictable from the first word. The dialogue was strained and comical, burdensome. The artwork left a lot to be desired.

5 stories for one dollar. Not a bad deal. And the majority of them were either well worth reading or fun to pass the time with. A good mixture. I'm looking more than forward to TM-42. Thank you for bringing good science and speculative fiction back to comics.

Kevin J. Dooley
756 S. Normandie #300
L.A., CA 90010

As you other readers can see, none of these letters match our compiled list as to what the favorites were. No two letters listed the stories in the same order (figure it out. How many ways can 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 be arranged?)

Kevin's key word in his letter is "mixture." We ARE trying to mix the KINDS of stories we present here. Again we reiterate: Something for everyone is our goal!—JCH

See

This letter is in concern of Time Warp #1. In answer to your request for a list of personal preferences, here's mine, with what I felt about the stories:

The Righteous Ones - excellently drawn, written, and plotted. It possesses an interesting plot twist at the end, although I would assume every ship would carry more than just one pilot.

The Man Who Could See Yesterday - another well done plot and Jim Aparo maintained his excellent standard in art. The title begged me until the end, since no clues were given to their "problem" if not being able to remember much.

The Survivors - a great plot, but the artwork slipped up a little in this story. It still rates as an excellent story, along with the two previously mentioned. Being a spy also intrigued me, but can you give us a few clues about what's going to happen? We do enjoy trying to figure them out.

If the World Had to End Twice - an enjoyable story, it rates as very good. The art was excellent, the ending fascinating, but it lacked that little push it needed to become an excellent story.

Mating Game - an excellent script, but it wound up as an average tale due to art. I never did like Steve Ditko's art in the Creeper or here. Sorry about that.

Forecast - a THREE pager? C'mon you guys, these three pages could have been used to clarify "If the World..." Ditko again, so art tore down another tale. The spaceship looks like a child's jack. The script was very good, but the story, as short as it was, only rates average due to Mr. Ditko.

Recess - Below average. Art partially salvaged this tale, but the story proved to be extremely dull aside from the very end. And when I say end, I mean the last two panels.

The Monsters - this tale nearly ruined the book. Poor at best, the plot was weak, the script bad, the art worse. To comment any more on such a bad story will be terrible for my health.

Overall, the book was above average, nearly hitting excellent. The logo you designed was one of the most interesting I've seen. But I have noticed a problem with the book. You have no anchor to sell the book. There are five

possibles for this position. First is Adam Strange. The problem is that he doesn't really fit in with the book's concept. Second is Rip Hunter in a space setting. He could prove to be interesting, but he will probably be weak. Thirdly is Tommy Tomorrow. His DC Special appearance shows he can be used nowadays. Fourth are the Star Hunters. You guys left me out in the air when the series was closed. The last choice hasn't been created yet, so he/she could be your new anchor.

Thanks for putting out another SF anthology.

Edwardo Ramon Serrano II
2028 Babcock Rd.
Vienna, VA 22180

If there are ever any series characters in TIME WARP they will be NEW ones created especially for this title. Adam Strange will be appearing with HAWKMAN and in an occasional solo story in WORLD'S FINEST COMICS.—JCH

Dear DC,

Your new Dollar Comic book TIME WARP is most enjoyable. Not because its contents dealt with time travel, but because the stories themselves are throwbacks of a sort. Your tales owe allegiance not to STAR WARS and BATTLESTAR GALACTICA, which have sparked the late 70's science fiction renaissance, but to the monster and S-F tales of the late 50's and early 60's. These books, existing on the eve of the re-birth of the super-hero, were often perfectly dreadful, but always thoroughly delightful. Their charm came in their simplicity, the naive way of presenting a story to engross the reader.

Any of the stories in TIME WARP #1 could have been lifted intact from one of those old monster books. This is not a put-down, rather I'm applauding your approach to presenting plain ol' entertainment. The "look" in the majority of the stories is the twist-ending—that ironic climax that, even if not totally original or unexpected, make the reader say, "Hey! That's neat!" Though this gimmick becomes tired in some of your lesser well-constructed stories—particularly "The Monsters" and "Recess" in issue #1, in most of the tales it works well and comes across as quite enjoyable.



As for listing the contents in order of preference, "The Man Who Could See Yesterday," clearly the most imaginative story in the book, tops my list. The fine Aparo art also helped immensely. This is followed in order by "The Righteous Ones" (again, great art), "If the World Had to End Twice," "Editor, 'Mating Game' and 'Forecast'" (these two are a tie—hold on Ditko, he really makes the feeling of the 60's monster books come alive), "The Survivors," "Recess" and "The Monsters."

As I stated, though there is a considerable gap between the quality of that first story and the eighth one, it's hard to keep up a consistent level throughout 51 pages of separate stories especially when devoted all to the same subject. If presented well, some are exciting and interesting while others become tiresome and redundant. I think this crutch can be alleviated by continuing stories, serials that build up characters and empathy to demand more real involvement. This stabilizing feature leaves room for your shorter "hook" tales to expand and improve, without being hampered by what amounts to filler.

Good luck with your magazine. It's a strong attempt to widen the borders of the comic field and entertain at the same time. I hope it works.

Richard Roder
83 23 Vandewater St
Queens Village, NY 11428

Thank you one and all! We'll now warp through time and see you next issue! We've lifted off and our journey has only just begun! Join us in infinity is our next step!—JCH




PRESENTS

THRILLING TEAM-UP ADVENTURES

ON SALE EVERY MONTH!

THE BRAVE IN BOLD



HAVE YOU EVER STOPPED TO WONDER WHO'S BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HORDS OF COSMIC SPACECRAFT WHICH HAVE BEEN HURTLING OFF THE MOVIE SCREEN TOWARDS YOUR EAGER EYES IN SCIENCE FICTION FILMS ALL THESE YEARS?

THE MAN BEHIND THE MAGIC IS OTTO LARLO. THE WORLD'S GREATEST SPECIAL EFFECTS WIZARD. BUT IT WON'T BE UNTIL AFTER HIS DEATH THAT THERE'LL APPEAR--

THE MOST SPECIAL OF EFFECTS

OTTO LARLO'S WORKSHOP IS A SCIENCE FICTION FAN'S HEAVEN. FOR IT IS AN Eerie, ALIEN PLACE, A SLICE OF A DISTANT GALAXY PLUNKED DOWN IN THE MIDDLE OF LOS ANGELES.

SCOTT EDELMAN
WRITER
JOEL MAGRADO
ARTIST
BOB LE ROSE
COLORIST
ESPINOZA
LETTERER

OTTO LARLO HAS LABORED LOVINGLY AND LONG OVER THE SPECIAL EFFECTS SEQUENCES FOR THE NEW TERENCE MICHAELS PRODUCTION "TREK WARS." AND HIS WORK-- AND HIS LIFE-- ARE BOTH ALMOST OVER.

ENTER:
TERENCE
MICHAELS, A
MAN WHO NEVER
HAD A GOOD
DEA IN HIS LIFE
EXCEPT TO
STEAL THOSE
BELONGING TO
OTHERS.

HOW'S IT
COMING, OTTO?
YOU SAID YOU'D
BE FINISHED
BY NOW.



HELLO MR.
MICHAELS. YES--
I'VE
COMPLETED
THE FILMING
OF ALL THE
SPECIAL
EFFECTS
SEQUENCES.
THEY'RE ALL
IN THE
CAN.

I
HONESTLY
THINK
THEY'RE
THE
BEST
I'VE
EVER
DONE.



IN FACT, I'VE
BEEN THINKING
OF RETIRING.
NOW TO END MY
CAREER ON A
FLASHY NOTE--
WHAT?



JUST END
IT, OLD MAN.

SO I
CAN TAKE
CREDIT
FOR ALL
THE
WORK
YOU'VE
JUST
DONE.



NO OTTO, YOU
DIE ALONE, A
FRIENDLESS FOOL.
ALL OF YOUR
PEERS ARE DEAD,
AND EVERYONE
ELSE THOUGHT
YOU TOO STRANGE
TO STRIKE
WITH.

SO THERE'S
NO ONE TO
ENACT
YOUR REVENGE!
AND MY
ONLY
PUNISHMENT
WILL BE--AN
OSCAR.

YOU ALWAYS
THOUGHT... OF
MY SPECIAL EFFECTS
WORK... AS AN OLD
MAN'S FIDDLING
WITH... TOYS...

BUT YOU
ARE... WRONG--
AND I WILL
HAVE MY
REVENGE...
MY FRIENDS
WILL...
WILL--



TERRENCE MICHAELS
PROPHETIC WORDS
PROVED TRUE.
WITH THE HELP OF
OTTO LASLOV
MAGNIFICENT FOOTAGE,
"TACK HAWK"
BROKE ALL
ATTENDANCE AND
RECEIPT RECORDS
STARTING A NEW
SCIENCE FICTION
CLIT. AND WON
TERRENCE MICHAELS
TWO OSCARS--
BEST ACTOR OF
THE YEAR AND...

--BEST SPECIAL
EFFECTS!-- THAT
MAKES TWO OSCARS
FOR THE MULTI-
TALENTED TERRENCE
MICHAELS.

THEY'RE ALL
FOOLED! I'VE
GOT THE
CREDIT FOR OTTO'S
SPECIAL EFFECTS--
AND THEY'LL
NEVER KNOW
DIFFERENT!



I'D LIKE
TO THANK
THE
ACADEMY
FOR --

MY GOD!
LOOK!

A MINATURE
SPACECRAFT
BUZZES
ACROSS THE
SEA OF
ASSEMBLED
CELEBRITIES
HEADING
UNBARREREDLY
TOWARD THE
STAGE--

I DON'T
BELIEVE
THIS!



--AND TOWARDS
TERRENCE
MICHAELS!



THEY WAITED FOR THE SPECIAL EFFECTS KING TO STEP OUT FROM BEHIND THE CURTAIN TO TAKE HIS WELL-EARNED BOW--AND IT WASN'T UNTIL LATER THAT THEY DISCOVERED HE WAS ALREADY ON STAGE--FOR REAL!

Hey Kids, have as much fun
in Fruit Stripe Land as you do
chewing Fruit Stripe Gum.



Q: There are two delicious
Fruit Stripe Gums to choose from.
What are they?

A: Fruit Stripe
Regular and
Fruit Stripe Bubble Gum.



Q: Why do we
put all those wild,
colorful, fruity
stripes on every
Fruit Stripe Gum?

A: To show you that
delicious, fruity
Fruit Stripe Gum
tastes good.



Q: There's a
whole herd of flavors
swimming in every
Fruit Stripe Gum.
What are they?

A: Lemon, Orange,
Cherry, Lime, Grape,
and Bubble Gum.



Q: What are the
wild and crazy
flavors of
Fruit Stripe Gum?

A: Cherry,
Lemon and
Bubble Gum.



It sure was fun going through Fruit Stripe Land with you!

Regular and Bubble Gum
Fruit Stripe Gum
means
Fruit Stripe Fun



[illegible]

AS
EVEN BEFORE
THEY WERE
BEGUN
SURVEYING
THE EARTH
A BO BO
FLAGGED
BY
DISSONANCE



WHEN THE DEAD CREW'S DESTINATION IS FINALLY REDISCOVERED, IT WILL SURELY
BEAR THE NAME OF...

ASTEROID TREACHERY

EVEN BEFORE
THEIR MISSION
BEGAN,
SURVEY TEAM
EARTH-
A-80 WAS
PLAGUED
BY
DISSENSION...

GET GOING,
YOU TWO...
YLLA, YOU'RE
IN CHARGE!

NICE
WORK, YLLA.
WHAT DID
YOU
PROMISE
ZILG IN
RETURN?

HOLD IT,
KANAR!

I CHOSE YLLA
FOR HER
ABILITY AND FOR
NO OTHER
REASON!
UNDERSTOOD?

UNDERSTOOD
ZILG!

GOOD...LET'S
GET STARTED!

MAKE
SURE YOU
MAINTAIN
RADIO
CONTACT!



WHAT ARE YOUR ORDERS, YLLA? ... I MEAN, BOSS?

XANAR... PLEASE... AT LEAST WHILE WE'RE ON ASSIGNMENT, I CAN DO WITHOUT YOUR SARCASM!



FUNNY... YOU NEVER MINDED IT WHEN WE WERE LOVERS?

THAT WAS BEFORE YOUR SICKLY PRIDE WAS WOUNDED BY MY PROMOTIONS!



IT WAS A MISTAKE FOR HEADQUARTERS TO PUT THOSE TWO ON THE SAME TEAM!

SOONER OR LATER, THEIR PIERCE RIVALRY IS GOING TO LEAD TO TROUBLE!



EH...? SOMETHING FUNNY HERE?

I'M SURE WE WERE STANDING IN FRONT OF A TREE A MOMENT AGO!



ARR-RGH-H-H-H-H!









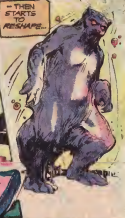
LET GO
OF THE GUN.
IT'S A MENACE
IN YOUR
HANDS!

NEVER! IT'S
MY ONLY
PROTECTION.
YOU DEVIL!



AMID THE RUBBLE THAT
ONCE WAS TWO HUMANS,
AN "INANIMATE OBJECT
CHANGES..."

— THEN
STARTS
TO
RESHAPE...



...EXPLAINS
INDEED
HOW THE
UNWARY
WOMAN
MANAGED
TO
RETRIEVE
HER
"WEAPON"



AND ON THE CRAFT'S COMPUTERIZED
COURSE, THE DESTINATION READS OUT:
PLANET EARTH!

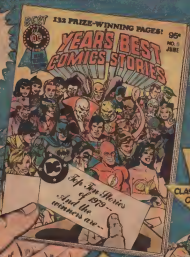
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STORIES
OF
1979!

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BEST
COVERS
OF THE
YEAR!



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PAGES!

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ISN'T ENOUGH,
DON'T DARE
MISS THE
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OF **FLASH**
AND HIS
FRIENDS!

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BLUE-RIBBON
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INVENTIVE CONCEPTS CORP.

STEVE MOONKID JOINED THE INVESTIGATIONAL DEFENSE FORCE AT THE TENDER AGE OF SIXTEEN. SHE WAS AN ORPHAN WITH LITTLE TASTE FOR CIVILIZATION AND AN AVERSION TO THE COMPANY OF THE SWEET MASSSES...

FOR TEN YEARS SHE'S PATROLLED SPACE SECTOR DELTA 7-96 ALONE AND--ALTHOUGH SHE SWEARS SHE'S NEVER FELT THE PANGS OF SADNESS--SHE'S NEVER EXPERIENCED THE HEADY RUSHES OF JOY, EITHER...

PARDON THE INTERRUPTION,
CAPTAIN MOONKID...

YES? WHAT
IS IT, COMPUTER?

IT APPEARS WE
HAVE A PROBLEM.

WHAT KIND
OF PROBLEM?

THERE HAS BEEN A
MINOR DISRUPTION
IN THE VERY FABRIC
OF OUR UNIVERSE.

PLEASE, EXPLAIN
YOURSELF, COMPUTER.
I DON'T THINK I...

...UNDERSTAND.

THE HOLE IN REALITY'S HEART

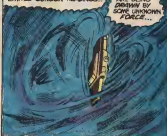
WRITER:
J. M. DE MATTEIS
ARTISTS:
DON NEWTON &
STEVE MITCHELL
LETTERS:
BRIAN COVA
COLORIST:
ADRIANNE ROY

MOONKID'S STOMACH ALMOST FLIES INTO HER TAWDRT AS THE MONOCHROMY OF HER WORLD SUD-
DENLY SHATTERS INTO MAD FRAGMENTE!



IF I MAY BE PERMITTED
THE LUXURY OF SPECULATION,
I WOULD GUESS--FROM MY
LIMITED SENSOR READINGS...

...THAT WE
ARE BEING
DRAWN BY
SOME UNKNOWN
FORCE...

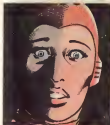


...INTO ANOTHER REALITY?
A PARALLEL UNIVERSE
CO-EXISTING WITH OURS
ON ANOTHER DIMENSIONAL
PLANE!

WHAT?!



BUT MOONKID CAN NOT DENY THE
EVIDENCE OF HER SSMR QUARTS...OR HER EYES...



AS THE SHIP DRIFTS ALONG,
MOONKID SEES A SEEMINGLY
ENDLESS PANORAMA OF DAMAGED
WORLDS...

... ALL STARK... ALL
DESOLATE... ALL DEAD...

WHAT COULD
HAVE DONE THIS,
COMPUTER?

INSUFFICIENT
DATA,
CAPTAIN...





...WE'RE GOING
TO HAVE TO
FIND SOMEBODY
WITH ANSWERS!

ASSUME A STANDARD
ORBIT AROUND THIS
PLANET, COMPUTER...



I'M
DOWN
IN!

BUT A PART OF CAPTAIN MOONKID
WONDERS WHY SHE'S GOING IN.
FOR WHAT DIFFERENCE IS IT
WHETHER SHE'S HERE ON THIS LIFE-
LESS MURBY OR SHORTING THE STARLIT
TRAILS OF SECTOR X-96...

...HASN'T HOME ALWAYS BEEN
A COLD, SOLITARY PLACE?



LORD! THE
STENCH IN
HERE IS...



...UNBEARABLE...

AFTER AN INSTANT OF
DREAMLESS TERROR, THE
MOONKID REALIZES THAT
THE INFERALLY VILE
CREATURE BEFORE HER IS
ASLEEP. THAT THOUGHT DOES LITTLE TO STILL
THE RAPID POUNDING OF HER HEART.

SHE STARES--ENTRANCED--
AT THE HUGE, UNMOLLY THING--
UNAWARE OF THE FIGURE STAND-
ING SILENTLY BEHIND HER.



AND WHEN AWARENESS FINALLY
COMES--IT ARRIVES...



UGH!



...FAR TOO
LATE...

CONSCIOUSNESS RETURNS WITH THE
PULSING WAVES OF TELEPATHIC CONTACT...

"FORGIVE ME FOR
STUNNING YOU, MY
FRIEND--BUT THERE
WAS LITTLE CHOICE!"

I HAD TO
REMOVE YOU
FROM SHAKA-TI'S
PRESSENCE BEFORE
YOUR LIFE
FORCE ROUSED HIM FROM
SLUMBER
PREMATURELY.

WH-WHO
ARE YOU?

I AM ARACE BENE--
ONCE THE SUPREME SCIENTIST
ON THIS WORLD CALLED
SELFAN--ONCE A MAN OF
GREAT INTELLECT
AND NAUGHTY
EGO.

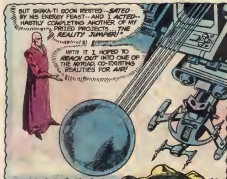
MY INTELLECT
LED THE SCIENTIFIC
COMMUNITY
DOWN NEW
ROADS--
ALWAYS
EXPERI-
MENTING--
ALWAYS
REVEALING
INSIGHTS.

"MY DAMNABLE EGO
LED TO THE DEVELOP-
MENT OF SHAKA-TI--
AN ARTIFICIALLY PRO-
DUCED LIVING BEING COM-
POSED OF PURE ENERGY.
I WAS PROUD, FOR
I HAD DONE
WHAT ONLY A
GOD COULD
DO--CREATE
LIFE!"

"UNFORTUNATELY,
THIS GOD'S CREATION
POSSESSED A FORMIDABLE
WILL OF ITS OWN
--AS WELL AS
THE UNSETTLING
ABILITY TO DRAW
ENERGY FROM
ALL LIFE AROUND
IT..."

"SHAKA-TI SOON BEGAN
TO CUT A PATH OF ENERGY
AND DESTRUCTION ACROSS
THIS ENTIRE UNIVERSE..."

"...AND HE LEFT ME--
THE ONE HE MOST KNEW
CALLED "MATHEN"--
ALIVE TO WITNESS
TO THE SLAUGHTER."



BUT SHUKA-TI SOON RESTED--SATIATED--
BY HIS ENERGY FEAST--AND I ACTED--
HASTILY COMPLETING ANOTHER OF MY
PRIOR PROJECTS...THE
REALITY JUMPER!

WITH IT I HOPED TO
REACH OUT INTO ONE OF
THE AINTEAD, CO-EXISTING
REALITIES FOR AID!

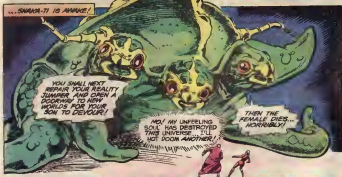
BUT THE MACHINE
MALFUNCTIONED--
RANDOMLY SNATCHING
THE FIRST OBJECT IT
SENSED...YOUR SHIP!

WHAT
HOPE IS
THERE
NOW?



NONE, MY
FATHER!

MOONED RECOILS AT THE SOUND
OF THAT OBSCURE VOICE. FOR SHE
KNOWS THAT -- AT LAST --



...SHUKA-TI IS AWAKE!

YOU SHALL NEXT
REPAIR YOUR REALITY
JUMPER, AND OPEN A
DOORWAY TO NEW
WORLDS FOR YOUR
SON TO DEVOUR!

NO! MY UNFEELING
SOUL HAS DESTROYED
THIS UNIVERSE. I'LL
NOT DOOM ANOTHER!

THEN THE
FEMALE DIES...
HORRIBLY!



FEAR...



EVIL...



...ACQUESCENCE...

I...AGREE...

FOR TWO LONG MONTHS
MOONED AND BARE WORK
REVERSHLY ON THE REALITY
JUMPER...

TWO MONTHS DURING WHICH
THEIR ALIEN HEARTS DREW TO
EACH OTHER IN A LOVE THAT
NEITHER SUSPECTED COULD
EVEN EXIST, LET ALONE
RUN SO DEEP...



BUT STILL THE SWORD OF DEATH HANGS
PRECARIOUSLY
OVER THEIR HEADS...

ARKOS-- I CAN'T
SO THROUGH WITH
THIS! LET SHAKA!
DESTROY ME! I WON'T
BE THE INSTRUMENT OF
EXTINCTION FOR MY
UNIVERSE!

YOU NEED
NOT BE, EVE...
I HAVE A
PLAN!

GUINON YOUR
SHIP, MY
LOVE!



THE WORDS ARE HANGFIRE...
THE ACTION CLEAR...



WHAT IS THIS! THE
FEMALE SEEMS TO ESCAPE
MY GRASP IN THAT
PALTRY VESSEL!

HOW FOOLISH
CAN SHE BE!
HA-HA-HA!



NO MORE FOOLISH THAN
YOU, SHAKA-TU! WE'VE
GOT HIM, ARKOS--
NOW LET'S...



THIS PLOT SEEMS
FATED TO FAIL,
CAPTAIN.

OH, SHUT UP,
COMPUTER. DID
YOU HEAR
ME, ARKOS...

...OPEN THAT
DOORWAY!



SO... THE
SHIP
HIDES...
WHAT AN
EASY...

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AND

WOULD THE SCIENTIST DO MAKING A SERVICE... OR A MORTAL INJURY... BY MAKING...

A SWITCH IN TIME!

DAVID ALLIKAS
WRITER

★ STEVE DITKO
ARTIST

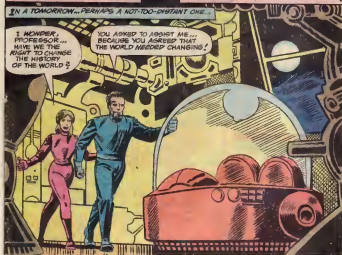
MILT SHAPIRO
LETTERER

★ ADRIENNE ROY
COLORIST

IN A TOMORROW... PERHAPS A NOT-TOO-DISTANT ONE...

I WONDER, PROFESSOR...
HAVE WE THE
RIGHT TO CHANGE
THE HISTORY
OF THE WORLD?

YOU ASKED TO ASSIST ME...
BECAUSE YOU AGREED THAT
THE WORLD NEEDED CHANGING!



YES...
BUT...

YOU STILL DOUBT? THE LAST
NUCLEAR WAR DESTROYED A
FIFTH OF THE EARTH'S
POPULATION!

WE CAN WAIT FOR
THE NEXT HOLOCAUST
TO FINISH THE
JOB...

...OR WE CAN END
THE ATOMIC AGE...
BEFORE IT
BEGINS!

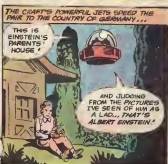
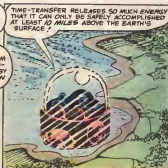


BUT PROFESSOR...
HAVE YOU TESTED
YOUR TIME TELE-
PORTER YET?

I SENT IT INTO THE
PAST LAST NIGHT,
BY REMOTE CONTROL!

IT BROUGHT BACK
THESE PHOTOGRAPHS
OF THE U.S. ATLANTIC
COASTLINE... AS IT
APPEARED BEFORE
THE NUCLEAR BLASTS
RESHAPED IT!





BUT WHEN THE CAPSULE RETURNS TO ITS
STARTING POINTS IN TIME AND SPACE...

THERE'S THE
SAN FRANCISCO
BAY...WE'RE HOME!

BUT WHY IS
THE LAND SO
GREEN?



INDIANS!

WE MUST
STILL BE
IN THE
PAST!

NO...THE INSTRU-
MENTS INDICATE
WE'VE RETURNED
TO OUR OWN
TIME!

LOOK...
EUROPEANS!



WE'RE NOT
EUROPEANS
...WE LIVE
HERE!

NO WHITE MEN HAVE LIVED ON
THIS CONTINENT SINCE 1492...

WHEN WE DROVE THE
INTRUDERS OFF OUR LAND
AND BACK TO EUROPE!

DROVE
THEM
OFF...?
BUT
HOW?

WITH THE ATOM BOMB
DEVELOPED BY OUR GREAT
ANCESTRAL LEADER...

RENAMED, IN HONOR
OF HIS ACHIEVEMENT
...CHIEF MUHAMMAD
CLOUD!

NO...IT
CAN'T
BE!

BUT THE MISERY YOUR RACE
HEAPED ON OURS DURING ITS
BRIEF TERM OF POWER IS
STILL REMEMBERED!

REMEMBERED...AND AVENGED EACH
TIME A WHITE MAN SETS FOOT ON OUR
LAND!

END

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\$1.25
+ shipping

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Phone _____ () _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

☐ Rush this order (add \$1.00 for \$1.25 service)

THESE CARTOONS ARE IMAGINATIONS
DO NOT REPRESENT ACTUAL SEA-MONKEYS



IT HAS BEEN FORECAST THAT HUMANITY, ONE DAY, WILL BE RID OF ALL ILLNESSES... NOT ONLY THE INFECTIONS THEMSELVES, BUT THE VERY GERMS THAT CARRY THEM! AND THAT WILL BE THE TIME WHEN SHEER TERROR CAN RESULT FROM...

The UNCOMMON COLD

THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME THAT AN ANTIQUE CAPSULE HAS SUDDENLY COME PLUMMETING OUT OF A CENTURIES-OLD ORBIT...

WHAT VINTAGE WOULD THAT ONE BE?

LOOKS LIKE IT'S FROM THE LATE 1900S.

HOW'D THEY EVER GET THOSE CRUDE THINGS TO LIFT OFF?

THOUGH ITS ACCELERATION, TRAJECTORY AND TOUCHDOWN CAN EASILY BE CHARTED --

--NO AMOUNT OF CALCULATION CAN FORECAST THE DREAD "CARGO" IT CARRIES...

WHAMP

GOOD LORD --?

WE'VE HAD UGLY VISITORS BEFORE -- BUT THIS ALIEN TAKES THE PRIZE.

ALIEN? THAT WAS AN OLD EARTH CAPSULE. REMEMBER?

STORY: GEORGE KASHGARIAN
ART: DAVID PATRICK
"COLOR": JERRY BEARBE



BUT IT DOESN'T
BREAK THE SLIGHTEST
RESEMBLANCE TO
HUMANITY!

HOW DID IT
COME TO OUR
WORLD?

AND
WHO SENT
IT ORBITING
BACK IN THE
20TH CENTURY?



FRANTICALLY
THE QUESTIONS
FLY AS THE
"WATCH" BEINGS
A SLOW,
SLITHERING
JOURNEY...

SHOULDN'T
WE GIVE IT A
DOSE OF
DYSYNTOBIANS?

YOU
KNOW THE
INTRASALACTIC
AGREEMENT...



IT'S A DEVISE
TO HARM ANY ALIEN,
EXCEPT IN SELF-
DEFENSE!

BUT
THAT ONLY REFERS TO
INTELLIGENT BEINGS WHO CAN
COMMUNICATE
AND...



WHY? IT
TOUCHED
ME!



ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT?

I
THINK
SO!

NO
PAIN... JUST
A LIGHT-
HEADED
FEELING, AS
IF--AS IF--



WAAACHOOO!



WITHIN MINUTES OF THE BEAST'S ARRIVAL, A UNIQUE COUNCIL IS SUMMONED INTO EXTRAORDINARY SESSION...

YES, MEMBERS, COMPUTERS HAVE ALREADY DETERMINED THAT ALIEN ORGANISM CARRIES ANCIENT COMMON-COLD GERMS WHICH ARE SPREADING RAPIDLY!



A LONG TIME AGO, THAT WOULD HARDLY CAUSE CONCERN-- FOR HUMANKIND BORE A NATURAL RESISTANCE TO MOST ILLNESSES!

BUT, SINCE DISEASE HAS BEEN COMPLETELY WIPE OUT OVER THE CENTURIES, WE HAVE LOST THAT INNATE PROTECTION!

THE SO-CALLED COMMON COLD CAN EASILY DEVELOP INTO AN EPIDEMIC OF PNEUMONIA, INFLUENZA OR OTHER RELATED MALADIES!



IS THERE NO CURE, CITIZEN CHAIRPERSON?

NO...WHEN THE FINAL DISEASE ORGANISM WAS WIPE OUT, HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO, ANTIBIOTIC PRODUCTION CEESED!

THEN WHAT ALTERNATIVES REMAIN?



THE ANSWER, COUNCILORS, LIES IN THE ORIGIN OF THAT CREATURE, WHICH WAS ONCE A HUMAN BEING!

WHAT?

IMPOSSIBLE!



THE
FACT WAS BEEN
CONFIRMED BY
COMPUTER AND
TIME-SCANNER!

SEVERAL
THOUSAND YEARS
AGO FOR REASONS
UNRECORDED...



"...A WOMAN WAS SEALED INSIDE THE
CAPSULE AND LIFTED INTO ORBIT..."



"IN SUSPENDED
ANIMATION, SHE
WAS APPARENTLY
UNWARE THAT
HER BODY
CARRIED COLD
GERMS..."



"PROTECTED BY
THE CAPSULE'S
UNIQUE
ENVIRONMENT,
THE GERMS
MULTIPLIED AND
MUTATED OVER
THE CENTURIES..."

"EVENTUALLY, THEY CAUSED THE WOMAN
HERSELF TO MUTATE!"



UNBELIEVABLE!

WHAT A
GHOSTLY
TALE!

WHY?
WHY WAS THIS
PERSON SENT
ORBITING IN THE
FIRST PLACE?



THERE ARE
NO HISTORICAL
RECORDS TO GIVE
EVEN A HINT OF
AN ANSWER!

AND SINCE
IT IS TOO LATE
NOW TO
REVERSE THE
DISEASE'S
COURSE, WE ARE
LEFT WITH
ONLY ONE
POSSIBLE
SOLUTION...



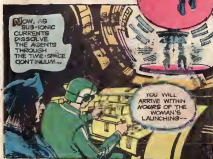
AS DULY ELECTED
TIME GUARDIANS, WE
MUST EXERCISE OUR
OPTION TO ALTER THIS
MOMENT OF HISTORY!



A GRIM
DECISION—
SOON TO BE
FOLLOWED BY AN EVEN
GRIMMER
WARNING...

REMEMBER, WE WISH
ONLY TO CURE THE WOMAN!
THE REST OF CIVILIZATION
MUST REMAINED UNCHANGED!

WE
UNDERSTAND,
CITIZEN
CHAIRPERSON!

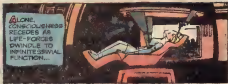


NOW, AS
SUB-IONIC
CURRENTS
DISSOLVE
THE AGENTS
THROUGH THE
TIME-SPACE
CONTINUUM...

YOU WILL
ARRIVE WITHIN
HOURS OF THE
WOMAN'S
LAUNCHING—

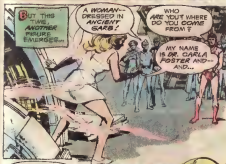
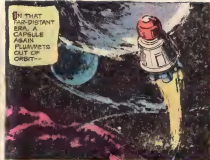


—AND RETURN
TO THIS MOMENT WHEN
ALL MEMORY OF THE
CREATURE—INCLUDING
OUR OWN—WILL HAVE
BEEN ERASED.

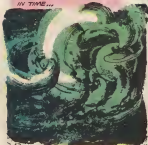


IN THAT FAR-DISTANT ERA, A CAPSULE AGAIN PLUMMETS OUT OF ORBIT--

--AND LANDS ACCORDING TO PRECISE CALCULATIONS...



"WE CALCULATED THAT IT WILL
ENVELOP THE EARTH WITHIN A
FEW MINUTES OF THIS POINT
IN TIME..."



"LIKE THE
ANCIENT
PLAGUES, IT
BEARS A
VIOLENT
ORGANISM,
CAPABLE OF
KILLING ALL
HUMAN
LIFE..."



"BY THE
TIME IT
DEPARTS,
OUR WORLD
WILL BE
BACK IN ITS
PREHISTORIC
STATE..."



"SEE I
ALREADY IT'S
GATHERING!"

"I ALONE
COULD HAVE
SAVED YOU IF...
IF..."

"IF
WHAT?"



"IF MY ILLNESS
HAVE SURVIVED! FOR
WE'D ALSO CALCULATED
THAT THE ONLY ANTIDOTE
TO THE CLOUD-PLAGUE
WAS--OUR COMMON-
COLD GERM!"



END



Remember How Many Times You Felt **LEFT OUT**

Because You Were **BROKE!**

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TO 10 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY OF THE FIRST ISSUES

THE LAST

MEGATHULUS

WRITER:
ARNOLD DRAKE
ARTIST:
JERRY GRANDETTE!
LETTERER:
MILT SHAPIRO
COLORIST:
JERRY SERPE

HE WAS THE
SCIENTIST'S SCIENTIST!
THE GREAT PRESERVER
OF LIFE! WHAT FORCE
COULD POSSIBLY CAUSE
THIS BRAND-OLD
TEACHER TO TURN
AGAINST HIS FELLOW
MAN AND TURN-ROGUE!

PROFESSOR
THEODORE
FIPPS, WHY
THIS DANGEROUS
MISSION AT YOUR
AGE TO SAVE THE
MEGATHULUS,
A CREATURE NO
ONE HAS EVER
SEEN?

WHAT BETTER
WAY TO
CELEBRATE
MY 63RD
BIRTHDAY,
THAN TO
CONTINUE MY
XENOZOOLOGY
WORK--

MY STUDY
OF EXTRA-
TERRESTRIAL
LIFE FORMS?

THREE OF
THE FINEST
STUDENTS I
EVER HAD
WILL
ACCOMPANY
ME, GENERAL
MALTBY--

--DEAN
BORGER,
HEAD OF
MY UNIVERSITY,
AND DR. HELEN
GARNIS OF THE
CLEVELAND
SPACE ZOO!

I REALLY DON'T
CARE ABOUT
THIS MEGATHULUS
MISSION! BUT
BEING WITH
PROFESSOR FIPPS
IS TO BE YOUNG
AGAIN!

HE'S 60 YEARS
MY SENIOR,
YET HIS MIND
IS YOUNGER AND
MORE ALIVE!

A VERITABLE
FOUNTAIN
OF YOUTH!

THAT'S A
LOT OF
PIFFLE!

I'LL FLUNK
ANY OF YOU
WHO TRY TO
TURN ME INTO
A LIVING
LEGEND...

...NOW--
PREPARE
FOR
LAUNCH!

I'D LIKE
ANOTHER
HEART-
SCAN
BEFORE
TAKE-OFF,
PROFESSOR!

COME NOW,
DR. GARNIS, YOU
RAN ONE YESTER-
DAY AND I WAS
FINE! NOW--

--RELAX
BEFORE
YOU HAVE
A HEART
ATTACK!

AND THE GRAND-OLD-MAN OF SPACE DOGDOLOBY EXPERIENCES HIMSELF LAUNCHING INTO THE STELLAR VOID!



THE TREMENDOUS FORCES OF THE LAUNCH PULL UPON THEM ALL, BUT THEY HAVE LIVED THROUGH THEM TIME AND AGAIN... BUT IS EXPERIENCE ENOUGH...?



THAT WAS EASY! I SUPPOSE I DID EXAGGERATE THE HAZARDS, EH, PROFESSOR?

PROFESSOR!?

A STRONG! A SHORT! THE MISSION! RADIO THE BASE TO HAVE AN AMBULANCE ON HAND!



THIS IS MY FAULT! I SHOULD HAVE INSISTED ON FURTHER SCANS...



WE NEED RATIONAL MINDS. HERE, DOCTOR -- MAINTAIN YOUR COMPOURE!

NOAH'S ARR-2 TO EARTH BASE--

STOP IT, MALLYB. I'M NOT GOING B-B-BACK!

YOU'RE CONSCIOUS! THANK THE LORD! BUT REST! YOU OBEY NO ORDERS -- THE GENERAL IS IN COMMAND!



LET ME MAKE THIS LAST JOURNEY, HELSH!

IF I'M STILL SICK WHEN WE ARRIVE, YOU CAN HAVE ME RESTRICTED TO THE SHIP!



WE'LL DISCUSS IT WHILE YOU SLEEP! A GOOD, LONG SLEEP!

FIRE AWAY, DOCTOR! AND REMEMBER, YOU THREE, YOU OWE THE "OLD MAN" MORE THAN ONE!

THE GREAT SHIP NOAH'S ARR-2 DOES NOT TURN BACK... IT PLUNGES THROUGH THE VOID AS THE THREE FORMER STUDENTS ARGUE THE FATE OF THE MISSION... AND OF THEIR MENTOR...



--AND A MAN HAS A RIGHT TO CHOOSE THE WAY HE DIES!

AT LEAST GIVE HIM A CHANCE, DOCTOR!

ALL RIGHT! BUT, SHORT OF TOTAL RECOVERY, HE DOESN'T LEAVE THIS SHIP!

SLOWLY, THE TIME PASSES ABOARD THE VESSEL, AND ROUTINE IS THE ORDER OF THE ENDLESS NIGHT...

THAT'S 3 GAMES FOR YOU! YOU'RE RECOVERING TOO FAST, PROFESSOR!

TH-THERE'S A RED PAWN MISSING AGAIN!

LOOK IN YOUR POCKET-- AGAIN!



YOU--YOU'RE RIGHT! Y-YOU KNOW, I L-LOVE THIS P-PARTICULAR G-GAME SO MUCH...IT-IT IS ONE OF L-LOGIC AND M-MENTAL SKILL...

YOU KNOW, W-WH-WE SHOULD B-BUILD TEMPLES INTO THIS SHAPE-- T-TO REMIND US OF WHAT SEPARATES M-MAN FROM ALL OTHER CREATURES--H-HIS BRAIN!

TH-THOSE THINGS ARE S-SOMETHING WE C-CANNOT SHARE M-WITH TH-THE BEASTS...



AS THE PROFESSOR'S STRENGTH GROWS AND AS THEIR DESTINATION DRAWS NEAR, PLANNING SESSIONS BEGIN AT A FEVERED PACE!

I-LIKE THE DINOSAURS OF EARTH, M-MESATHUS IS DRING OF R-RAPID ATMOSPHERIC CHANGES ON ITS PL-NET, T-THE DRAWING--

--IS BASED ON B-BONE SPECIMENS PHOTOGRAPHED BY AN EXPLORER S-SATELLITE!

THEN HOW CAN WE BE SURE ANY HAVE SURVIVED AT THIS POINT IN THE 3



ALWAYS THE DOUBTER, GENERAL, R-BUT YOU'RE R-RIGHT! WE DON'T KNOW! BUT IF TH-THERE IS ONE, AND W-WE SAVE IT, 1,000 GENERATIONS TO C-COME WILL SING OUR H-NAMES!

AND IF MESATHUS IS UNFRIENDLY, THEY'LL SING OUR FUNERAL MARCH!



TARGET DAY NEARS, BUT THE ANTICIPATED LANDING IS MUCH LESS A CAUSE OF EXCITEMENT THAN THE PROFESSOR'S CONDITION...

AN AMAZING RECOVERY! BUT THERE'S STILL THE MINOR BRAIN DAMAGE WHICH CAUSES YOUR STAMMER!

F-FORGET THAT! T-THE FACT IS, I'M A M-WELL MAN!



AND SO, FOLLOWING
THE LEADS, THE
PROFESSOR JOINS
THE LONG-ABANDONED
SEARCH!

THIS IS OUR
LAST ATTEMPT
AT LOCATING
A MEGATHUS,
PROFESSOR!

WOODS! CREEPY!
PATIENCE! WE
NEED A PREHISTORIC
NEEDLE IN A JUNGLE
HAYSTACK! BUT WE
ARE CLOSE-- I'M
CERTAIN!



AFTER SEVERAL
UNSUCCESSFUL
VENTURES OVER
THE ALIEN
PLAINS...

THERE SHE
BLOWS! AND
WHAT A
MONSTER!

LET'S
HOPE IT'S A
VEGETARIAN!

DON'T WORRY,
I'M CARRYING
THE LATEST
MILITARY-
GRADE PARA-
LASER RIFLE!

W-WE'VE
COME TO
S-SAVE
IT, NOT
SH-SHOOT
IT!

GWARK!

FWOO!

SPARK!

I'VE GOT A NEW VIDEO-
CAMERA WITH 3-D AND
SCENT RECORDING!
MOVE UP,
PROFESSOR--

I WANT A
SHOT OF YOU
DISCOVERING
MEGATHUS!

GWAPARK!

THE CAMERA
JARRIED! I'LL
HAVE TO DO
SOME FAST
ADJUSTING!

B-CAREFUL, BORDER!
TH-THOSE NEW VIDEO
USE A PH-PHOSPHO-
OXALINE IMAGE
TUBE TH-THAT--



--CONTAINS A
P-POISONOUS
GAS!



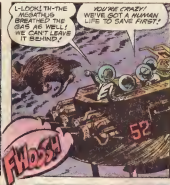
CRASH!



ARRRRGH!

H-HE'S
INHALED
THE GAS
THROUGH
HIS
HELMET!

HAVE TO
GET HIM
BACK TO
THE SHIP--
FAST!



L-LOOK! TH-THE
MEGATHUS
BREATHED THE
GAS AS WELL!
WE CAN'T LEAVE
IT BEHIND!

YOU'RE CRAZY!
WE'VE GOT A HUMAN
LIFE TO SAVE FIRST!

FWOOSH!

52

BACK ABOARD THE SHIP, THE GAS IS SUBJECTED TO THE SHIP'S ANALYTIC COMPUTER, AND DR. GARNIS PRODUCES--



---AN ANTIDOTE
FOR THE GAS! WE
HAD JUST ENOUGH
TO MAKE A
MINIMUM
DOSEAGE!



H-WAIT, HELEN!
IF YOU USE
TH-THAT ON
B-BORGER,
MEGATHUS
WILL DIE!

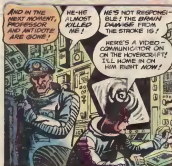
PROFESSOR!
WE HAVE NO
CHOICE! ONE OF
OUR OWN MUST
COME FIRST!

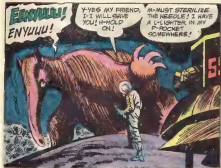


THEN WITH SPEED
THAT BELIES HIS
AGE OR RECENT
CONDITION...

H-HAND ME THAT ANTIDOTE,
H-HELEN! THE B-DEATH OF
ONE OF US IS A-NOTHING--
COMPARED TO WHAT
MEGATHUS CAN T-TEACH
US!

PROFESSOR! YOU
DON'T REALIZE
WHAT YOU'RE
DOING!





EEUUUU!
ENYUUU!

Y-YES MY FRIEND,
I-I WILL SAVE
YOU! H-HOLD
ON!

M-MUST STERILIZE
THE NEEDLE! I HAVE
A LIGHTER IN MY
P-POCKET--
SOMEWHERE!



I COULD
STRANGLE
HIM WITH
MY OWN
TWO--

WAIT!
H-H-E'S
STOPPED!

HE'S STARRING AT
SOMETHING
IN HIS
HAND!
WHAT
IS IT?



HE DIDN'T USE THE
ANTIDOTE ON MEGATHUS!
HE'S COMING BACK
WITH IT! WHATEVER
IS IN HIS HAND
CHANGED HIS
MIND?

BUT WHAT
THE DEVIL IS
IT?



MOMENTS LATER,
AS THE CRAFT
RETURNS...

MY GOD,
PROFESSOR--
YOU'RE
D-DYING!

N-NEVER M-MIND!
THE A-ANTIDOTE--
I-SAVE BORGER!
MUST SAVE
BORGER!

ALL
CREATURES
NOT THE
S-SAME!
UUNN--



IN A MOMENT, ONE LIFE
IS LOST AND ANOTHER
-- SAVED!



A CHESS
PIECE!
BUT WHAT
DID THAT
MEAN
TO HIM?

SOMETHING
MORE
IMPORTANT
THAN THE
LIFE OF ONE
CREATURE--

TH- THE THING THAT
SEPARATES MAN
FROM ALL OTHER
CREATURES!

THE
HUMAN--
BRAIN!

**THE
END**

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